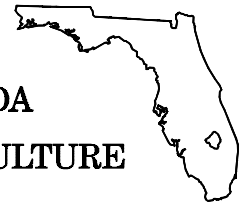




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**FLORIDA**  
**AGRICULTURE**

# LIVESTOCK DAIRY & POULTRY

LDP-00-4

April 2000

## TOPICS IN THIS REPORT

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Chickens and Eggs  
Hatchery Production  
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## CATTLE ON FEED IN HISTORIC 7 STATES UP 11 PERCENT

Cattle on feed April 1, 2000, in the historic 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.57 million, up 8 percent from the previous year and 11 percent above April 1, 1998. The inventory included 5.74 million steers and steer calves, up 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.80 million head, up 8 percent from 1999.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.72 million head, 1 percent below 1999 but 21 percent above 1998.

Marketings during March totaled 1.76 million head, 6 percent above 1999 and 12 percent above 1998.

Other disappearance during March was 74,000 head, 42 percent above 1999 and 7 percent above 1998.

Cattle on Feed: U.S. Number Placed on Feed, by weight groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, February and March 2000

| Month      | Less than 600 lbs | 600-699 lbs | 700-799 lbs | 800+ lbs | Total |
|------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------|
| 1,000 head |                   |             |             |          |       |
| Feb        | 351               | 476         | 596         | 457      | 1,880 |
| Mar        | 331               | 406         | 715         | 564      | 2,016 |

## U. S. CATTLE ON FEED 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States (for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head) totaled 11.19 million head on April 1, 2000. The inventory was 8 percent above the April 1, 1999 and 11 percent above April 1, 1998. The inventory included 6.79 million steers and steer calves, up 8 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.35 million head, up 7 percent from 1999.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 2.02 million, 1 percent below 1999 but 18 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.92 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 331,000, 600-699 pounds were 406,000, 700-799 pounds were 715,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 564,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 2.05 million, 3 percent above 1999 and 10 percent above 1998.

Other disappearance totaled 101,000 during March, 42 percent above 1999 and 7 percent above 1998.

Cattle and calves on feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, 7 Historic States and United States

| State     | Number on feed March 1 |        |         | Placed during March |       |         | Marketed during March |       |         | Other disappearance during March |      |         | Number on feed April 1 |        |         |
|-----------|------------------------|--------|---------|---------------------|-------|---------|-----------------------|-------|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|------------------------|--------|---------|
|           | 1999                   | 2000   | 2000-99 | 1999                | 2000  | 2000-99 | 1999                  | 2000  | 2000-99 | 1999                             | 2000 | 2000-99 | 1999                   | 2000   | 2000-99 |
|           | 1,000 head             |        | Percent | 1,000 head          |       | Percent | 1,000 head            |       | Percent | 1,000 head                       |      | Percent | 1,000 head             |        | Percent |
| AZ        | 203                    | 275    | 135     | 39                  | 30    | 77      | 27                    | 27    | 100     | 1                                | 5    | 500     | 214                    | 273    | 128     |
| CA        | 385                    | 405    | 105     | 55                  | 59    | 107     | 50                    | 51    | 102     | 5                                | 8    | 160     | 385                    | 405    | 105     |
| CO        | 1,130                  | 1,180  | 104     | 240                 | 250   | 104     | 240                   | 250   | 104     | 10                               | 10   | 100     | 1,120                  | 1,170  | 104     |
| IA        | 360                    | 375    | 104     | 57                  | 57    | 100     | 56                    | 56    | 100     | 1                                | 1    | 100     | 360                    | 375    | 104     |
| KS        | 2,030                  | 2,320  | 114     | 440                 | 400   | 91      | 380                   | 420   | 111     | 10                               | 20   | 200     | 2,080                  | 2,280  | 110     |
| NE        | 2,160                  | 2,310  | 107     | 380                 | 400   | 105     | 350                   | 390   | 111     | 10                               | 10   | 100     | 2,180                  | 2,310  | 106     |
| TX        | 2,610                  | 2,830  | 108     | 530                 | 520   | 98      | 565                   | 570   | 101     | 15                               | 20   | 133     | 2,560                  | 2,760  | 108     |
| 7 States  | 8,878                  | 9,695  | 109     | 1,741               | 1,716 | 99      | 1,668                 | 1,764 | 106     | 52                               | 74   | 142     | 8,899                  | 9,573  | 108     |
| Oth. Sts. | 1,542                  | 1,635  | 106     | 290                 | 300   | 103     | 318                   | 289   | 91      | 19                               | 27   | 142     | 1,495                  | 1,619  | 108     |
| U.S.      | 10,420                 | 11,330 | 109     | 2,031               | 2,016 | 99      | 1,986                 | 2,053 | 103     | 71                               | 101  | 142     | 10,394                 | 11,192 | 108     |

Average prices, Nebraska, dollars per cwt

| Week ended | Slaughter steers |  |       |  | Slaughter heifers |  |       |  |
|------------|------------------|--|-------|--|-------------------|--|-------|--|
|            | Choice           |  |       |  | Choice            |  |       |  |
|            | 1100-1300 lbs    |  |       |  | 1000-1200 lbs     |  |       |  |
|            | 1999             |  | 2000  |  | 1999              |  | 2000  |  |
| Mar 11     | 65.68            |  | 71.67 |  | 65.65             |  | 71.81 |  |
| Mar 18     | 64.68            |  | 72.00 |  | 64.93             |  | 71.92 |  |
| Mar 25     | 64.33            |  | 72.83 |  | 64.22             |  | 72.92 |  |

# CHICKENS AND EGGS

## FLORIDA

Table eggs sold in mid-April 2000 averaged 43.0 cents, up 2.0 cents from mid-March. Table egg production in Florida during March was 238 million eggs, up 12 percent from the previous month.

## UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.22 billion during March 2000, up 2 percent from the 7.05 billion produced in 1999. Production included 6.10 billion table eggs and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2000 averaged 331 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during March 1999. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,182 eggs, down slightly from 2,185 eggs in March 1999. March 2000 contained 23 weekdays and four Saturdays, equal to March 1999.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2000, totaled 331 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 331 million layers consisted of 271 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 57.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.84 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2000, averaged 70.9 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from the 71.0 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.79 billion eggs during March, up 2 percent from March 1999. The average number of layers during March, at 311 million, was up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Mid-month table egg prices received  
by Florida egg producers.

| Month     | Cents per dozen |      |
|-----------|-----------------|------|
|           | 1999            | 2000 |
| January   | 49.0            | 41.0 |
| February  | 45.0            | 38.0 |
| March     | 44.0            | 41.0 |
| April     | 37.0            | 43.0 |
| May       | 28.0            |      |
| June      | 37.0            |      |
| July      | 34.0            |      |
| August    | 41.0            |      |
| September | 32.0            |      |
| October   | 26.0            |      |
| November  | 42.0            |      |
| December  | 38.0            |      |

**FLORIDA:** Layers on hand first of month;  
percentages by age and molting stage

|                              | Apr<br>1999 | Feb<br>2000 | Mar<br>2000 | Apr<br>2000 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total layers on hand: Thous. | 10,789      | 10,586      | 10,532      | 10,725      |
| Percent of layers:           |             |             |             |             |
| Being molted                 | 8.5         | 8.0         | 6.0         | 0.5         |
| Molt completed               | 34.0        | 38.0        | 36.0        | 28.0        |

Layers and egg production, March 2000, production year-to-date egg production for selected States

| Selected States | Average layers on hand | Eggs per 100 layers | Egg production |            |           |                            | Layers       |                |
|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
|                 |                        |                     | Total          | Table      | Hatching  | Year to date <sup>1/</sup> | Being molted | Molt completed |
|                 | Thousand               |                     | Millions       |            |           |                            | Percent      |                |
| Alabama         | 10,636                 | 1,937               | 206            | 71         | 135       | 805                        | 1.5          | 11.0           |
| Arkansas        | 15,684                 | 1,957               | 307            | 111        | 196       | 1,200                      | 2.5          | 5.0            |
| California      | 24,343                 | 2,252               | 546            |            |           | 3,044                      | 3.0          | 40.0           |
| <b>Florida</b>  | <b>10,630</b>          | <b>2,239</b>        | <b>238</b>     | <b>226</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>928</b>                 | <b>0.5</b>   | <b>28.0</b>    |
| Georgia         | 21,370                 | 2,143               | 458            | 276        | 182       | 1,774                      | 1.0          | 16.0           |
| Indiana         | 22,901                 | 2,279               | 522            | 508        | 14        | 2,052                      | 1.5          | 34.0           |
| Iowa            | 27,631                 | 2,276               | 629            |            |           | 2,445                      | 3.5          | 30.5           |
| Maine           | 4,238                  | 2,383               | 101            |            |           | 403                        | 0.0          | 0.0            |
| Maryland        | 3,416                  | 2,225               | 76             | 70         | 6         | 316                        | 0.0          | 38.5           |
| Michigan        | 6,484                  | 2,209               | 143            |            |           | 543                        | 2.0          | 25.5           |
| Minnesota       | 12,663                 | 2,219               | 281            | 271        | 10        | 1,102                      | 3.5          | 31.5           |
| Mississippi     | 6,859                  | 2,027               | 139            | 45         | 94        | 531                        | 0.5          | 10.0           |
| Missouri        | 6,260                  | 2,236               | 140            |            |           | 537                        | 3.0          | 23.0           |
| Nebraska        | 11,788                 | 2,146               | 253            | 253        |           | 988                        | 3.5          | 27.0           |
| New York        | 4,001                  | 2,374               | 95             |            |           | 363                        | 0.5          | 5.5            |
| North Carolina  | 11,302                 | 1,902               | 215            | 83         | 132       | 860                        | 1.0          | 8.0            |
| Ohio            | 31,503                 | 2,162               | 681            |            |           | 2,763                      | 2.0          | 11.5           |
| Pennsylvania    | 23,530                 | 2,303               | 542            | 524        | 18        | 2,056                      | 2.5          | 22.0           |
| South Carolina  | 4,879                  | 2,050               | 100            | 83         | 17        | 390                        | 1.5          | 33.0           |
| Texas           | 17,278                 | 2,153               | 372            |            |           | 1,505                      | 1.0          | 21.5           |
| Virginia        | 3,476                  | 2,043               | 71             | 34         | 37        | 279                        | 0.0          | 18.5           |
| Washington      | 4,784                  | 2,349               | 112            |            |           | 434                        | 6.0          | 42.0           |
| Other States    | 45,270                 | 2,197               | 445            | 351        | 94        | 2,988                      | 3.4          | 19.6           |
| United States   | 330,826                | 2,182               | 7,220          | 6,101      | 1,119     | 28,306                     | 2.1          | 22.4           |

<sup>1/</sup> Production year begins December 1.

## HATCHERY PRODUCTION

### FLORIDA

The March hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 9,758,000 was 8 percent below a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 8,502,000, were 3 percent below a year ago.

Egg-type hatch during March at 1,014,000 chicks, was 5 percent below last year. Egg-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 701,000 was 19 percent below last year.

### UNITED STATES

The March 2000 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 756 million, was up slightly from March of the previous year. There were 633 million eggs in incubators on April 1, 2000, up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.31 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2000, up slightly from March 1999.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March totaled 39.6 million, down 4 percent from March 1999. Eggs in incubators totaled 33.2 million on April 1, 2000, down 11 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 286,000 during March 2000, down 11 percent from March 1999.

Hatchery production, United States

| Item   | 1999    | 2000    | 2000<br>% of<br>1999 |
|--|---------|---------|----------------------|
| -- Thousands --  |         |         |                      |
| Egg-Type:  |         |         |                      |
| Eggs in incubators: Apr 1  | 37,250  | 33,172  | 89                   |
| Chicks hatched during Mar  | 41,172  | 39,560  | 96                   |
| Pullets hatched during Mar<br>for intended placements<br>in hatchery supply flocks | 257     | 286     | 111                  |
| 7-18 months earlier <sup>1/</sup>  | 3,020   | 3,078   | 102                  |
| Broiler-Type:  |         |         |                      |
| Eggs in incubators: Apr 1  | 628,727 | 632,782 | 101                  |
| Chicks hatched during Mar  | 755,804 | 756,351 | 100                  |
| Pullets hatched during Mar<br>for intended placements<br>in hatchery supply flocks | 7,284   | 7,310   | 100                  |
| 7-14 months earlier <sup>2/</sup>  | 60,699  | 64,697  | 107                  |

<sup>1/</sup> 2000 includes pullet chicks hatched September 1998 through August 1999 <sup>2/</sup> 2000 includes pullet chicks hatched December 1998 through August 1999.

## MILK PRODUCTION

### FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 245 million pounds of milk during March 2000, unchanged from the previous March. Production per cow, at 1,560 pounds, was 1 percent above last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in March totaled 157,000, 1 percent below last year.

### UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled 12.7 billion pounds, up 3.8 percent from production in these same States in March 1999. February revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was up 8.2 percent from February 1999. However, adjusting for the additional day due to leap year caused February milk production to be up 4.5 percent on a per day basis. The February revision represented a slight decrease of 1 million pounds from last months preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,634 pounds for March, 49 pounds above March 1999.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 57,000 head more than March 1999 and 4,000 head more than February 2000.

Milk cows and production, Florida and U.S.

| Month<br>and year | Milk<br>cows | Monthly milk<br>production |                  |           |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|
|                   |              | Per cow                    | Monthly<br>Total |           |
|                   |              | Thous.                     | Lbs.             | Mil. Lbs. |
| Florida:          |              |                            |                  |           |
| March 1999        | 159          | 1,540                      | 245              |           |
| February 2000     | 157          | 1,410                      | 221              |           |
| March 2000        | 157          | 1,560                      | 245              |           |
| 20 Major States:  |              |                            |                  |           |
| March 1999        | 7,713        | 1,585                      | 12,228           |           |
| February 2000     | 7,766        | 1,505                      | 11,691           |           |
| March 2000        | 7,770        | 1,634                      | 12,694           |           |
| United States     |              |                            |                  |           |
| March 1999        | --           | --                         | 14,270           |           |
| February 2000     | --           | --                         | 13,590           |           |
| March 2000        | --           | --                         | 14,755           |           |

Milk production by quarters, United States

| Month           | Milk<br>cows <sup>1/</sup> |       | Milk per<br>cow <sup>2/</sup> |       | Milk<br>production |        |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------|--------|
|                 | 1999                       | 2000  | 1999                          | 2000  | 1999               | 2000   |
|                 | Thousand                   |       | Pounds                        |       | Mil. Lbs           |        |
| Jan-Mar         | 9,128                      | 9,186 | 4,437                         | 4,637 | 40,505             | 42,591 |
| Apr-Jun         | 9,155                      |       | 4,591                         |       | 42,029             |        |
| Jul-Sep         | 9,171                      |       | 4,337                         |       | 39,771             |        |
| Oct-Dec         | 9,170                      |       | 4,406                         |       | 40,406             |        |
| Annual<br>Total | 9,156                      |       | 17,771                        |       | 162,711            |        |

<sup>1/</sup> Dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2/</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for March 2000 was 4.7 million pounds, 24 percent above the same month last year. Commercial production of red meat in the United States for March at 4.04 billion pounds, was slightly above 1999.

### Commercial slaughter and red meat production, Florida and United States

| Source and kind                      | Mar 1999 | Feb 1999 | Mar 2000 | Year to date 1999 | Year to date 2000 |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Florida <sup>1/</sup></b>         |          |          |          |                   |                   |
| Hogs:                                |          |          |          |                   |                   |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head)        | 10       | 7        | 8        | 24                | 22                |
| Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)      | 1,855    | 1,362    | 1,457    | 4,438             | 4,014             |
| Red Meat production (million pounds) | 3.8      | 4.4      | 4.7      | 10.1              | 13.3              |
| <b>United States</b>                 |          |          |          |                   |                   |
| Cattle:                              |          |          |          |                   |                   |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head)        | 3,050    | 2,937    | 3,131    | 8,734             | 9,005             |
| Total liveweight (million pounds)    | 3,709    | 3,598    | 3,802    | 10,646            | 11,010            |
| Average liveweight (pounds)          | 1,216    | 1,225    | 1,215    | 1,219             | 1,223             |
| Beef production (million pounds)     | 2,231    | 2,175    | 2,300    | 6,399             | 6,653             |
| Calves:                              |          |          |          |                   |                   |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head)        | 117      | 95       | 103      | 322               | 291               |
| Total liveweight (million pounds)    | 33       | 30       | 33       | 91                | 92                |
| Average liveweight (pounds)          | 287      | 318      | 320      | 284               | 317               |
| Veal production (million pounds)     | 20       | 18       | 20       | 55                | 55                |
| Hogs:                                |          |          |          |                   |                   |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head)        | 9,118    | 8,067    | 8,811    | 25,579            | 25,019            |
| Liveweight (million pounds)          | 2,363    | 2,108    | 2,308    | 6,623             | 6,549             |
| Average liveweight (pounds)          | 259      | 261      | 262      | 259               | 262               |
| Pork production (million pounds)     | 1,737    | 1,554    | 1,700    | 4,866             | 4,824             |
| Red meat production (million pounds) | 4,017    | 3,767    | 4,044    | 11,387            | 11,596            |

<sup>1/</sup> Florida cattle and calves data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

### Average Dollars Per Cwt Received through 13 Florida Auctions March 1999 and 2000

| Stocker calves under 300 lbs. |        |         |        |         | Stocker calves over 300 lbs. |        |         |        |         |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| Grade                         | 1999   |         | 2000   |         | Grade                        | 1999   |         | 2000   |         |
|                               | Steers | Heifers | Steers | Heifers |                              | Steers | Heifers | Steers | Heifers |
| Medium #1                     | 106.45 | 83.82   | 136.43 | 119.08  | Medium #1                    | 90.20  | 72.73   | 92.96  | 84.93   |
| Medium #2                     | 90.06  | 73.76   | 115.90 | 101.20  | Medium #2                    | 79.08  | 66.20   | 84.29  | 76.61   |
| All grades                    | 99.26  | 79.37   | 131.74 | 113.90  | All grades                   | 84.38  | 70.20   | 111.56 | 100.05  |

SOURCE: FDA & CS, Div. Of Marketing and Development, Market News Service.